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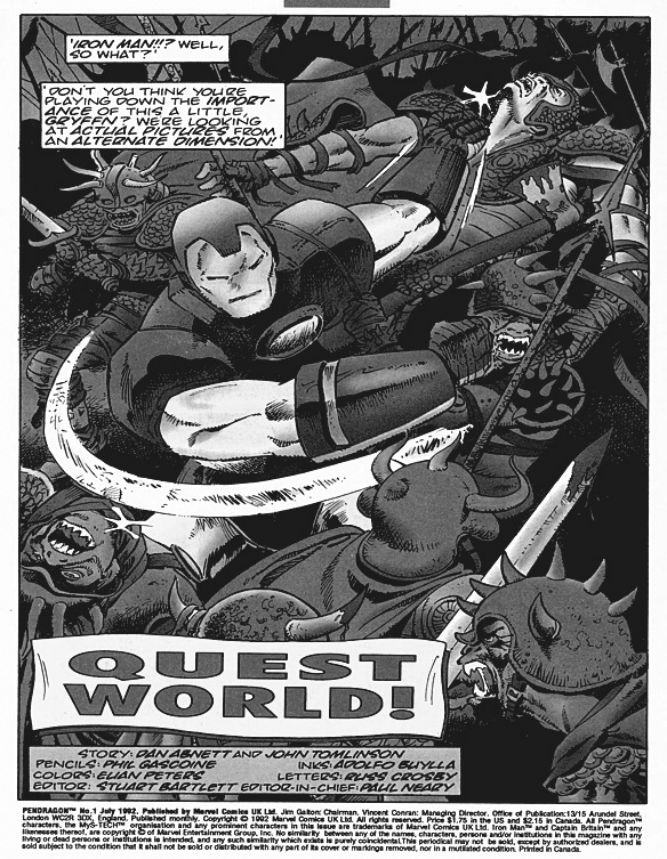
HI-TECH ARTHURIAN ADVENTURE...

KNIGHTS OF **Pendragon**™

CO-STARRING
IRON MAN!



THE KNIGHTS OF THE
ROUND TABLE - REBORN!

A black and white comic book illustration. Iron Man is in the center, looking down with a determined expression. He is surrounded by a chaotic scene of monsters and debris. In the background, a large, multi-eyed monster with tentacles is visible. In the foreground, there are several smaller, horned, and spiked creatures, some of which appear to be attacking or being defeated. The overall atmosphere is dark and intense.

**'IRON MAN!!?' WELL,
SO WHAT?'**

**'DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE
PLAYING DOWN THE IMPORT-
ANCE OF THIS A LITTLE,
GRYFFIN? WE'RE LOOKING
AT ACTUAL PICTURES FROM
AN ALTERNATE DIMENSION!'**

QUEST WORLD!

STORY: DAN ABNETT AND JOHN TOMLINSON
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I KNOW WHAT WE'RE LOOKING AT, **PORLOCK**, BUT I FAIL TO SEE HOW IT ADDRESSES THE QUESTIONS PUT BY THE **MYS-TECH** BOARD.

NAMELY—WHO ARE THE **KNIGHTS OF PENDRAGON**? AND WHAT IS THE **SOURCE** OF THEIR POWER?

THE CENTURIES HAVE GRANTED YOU NEITHER **GRACE** NOR **PATIENCE**. ALLOW ME TO MAKE THIS PRESENTATION IN MY OWN TIME, **GRYFFEN**!

THE REPORT WAS COMPILED BY **WARHEAD*** OPERATIVE **ORTEGA** DURING A RECENT 'BIG JUMP'.



* **DIMENSION HOPPING** **MYS-TECH** **MERCENARIES**.



THE **WORMHOLE**, A TINY **DIMENSIONAL** OPENING THAT COULD LEAD ANYWHERE, TOOK HER TO THE HEART OF AN **INCREDIBLE** BATTLE, IN A **DIMENSION** KNOWN AS **AVOLON**. THE **LIKES** OF **IRON MAN** AND **CAPTAIN BRITAIN** JOINED THE **PENDRAGONS** IN **MORTAL** COMBAT...

...WITH THEIR **OPPOSITE** NUMBER, THE **BANE**, **ELEMENTAL** LORDS OF **WINTER** AND **WAR-FACE**.

THAT'S **GRACE**, ISN'T IT?

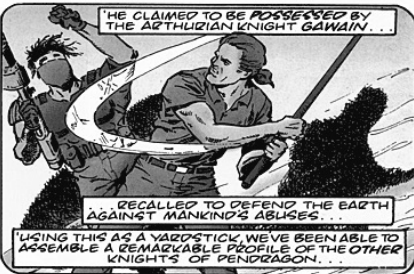
YES, WE'LL COME TO HER **SHORTLY**.



'FIRST, THE PENDRAGON'S, THE BEST PUBLICIZED MANIFESTATION OF THIS PHENOMENON OCCURRED IN 1990, TO COMMANDER DAI THOMAS OF NEW SCOTLAND YARD IN LONDON.'



'HE CLAIMED TO BE POSSESSED BY THE ARTHURIAN KNIGHT GAWAIN...'



'...RECALLED TO DEFEND THE EARTH AGAINST MANKIND'S ABUSES...'

'USING THIS AS A YARDSTICK, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO ASSEMBLE A REMARKABLE PROFILE OF THE OTHER KNIGHTS OF PENDRAGON...'

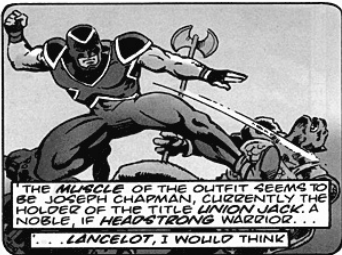
'THEIR LEADER IS ALBION - APPARENTLY THE SAME ALBION THAT FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE ALLIES DURING WORLD WAR ONE.'



'IT SEEMS THE PENDRAGON POWER ENABLES HIS ALTER-EGO, SCHOOL TEACHER PETER HUNTER, TO REMAIN YOUNG.'

'WE'LL CALL HIM MERLIN.'

'A GOOD ANALOGY-WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT HIS PROTEGE EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD ADAM CROWN, APPEARS TO BE THE BOY-KING ARTHUR REINCARNATED.'



'THE MUSCLE OF THE OUTFIT SEEMS TO BE JOSEPH CHAPMAN, CURRENTLY THE HOLDER OF THE TITLE UNION JACK. A NOBLE, IF HEADSTRONG WARRIOR...'

'...LANCELOT, I WOULD THINK'

'THERE HAD TO BE A GUINEVERE, OF COURSE. KATE MCCLELLAN, FEARLESS AND MUCH-LOVED INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER FOR THE SATELLITE CHANNELS.'



'SHE PUT HER CAREER ON HOLD AFTER HER LOVER, BEN GALLAGHER'S DEATH-APPARENTLY TO FINISH HIS BOOK.'

SINCE YOU SO DIPLOMATICALLY MENTION MY AGE, PORLOCK, PERHAPS YOU'D ESTIMATE HOW OLD I'LL BE BEFORE YOU CONCLUDE THIS TIRESOME TREATISE.

I CRAVE YOUR INDULGENCE A WHILE LONGER.

I REFER ONCE MORE TO ORTEGA'S REPORT...

WHEREVER THE DIMENSION IS- LET'S CALL IT AVALON-IT IS A VERITABLE CYCLONE OF ELEMENTAL ENERGY, AND THIS IS THE SOURCE...

MY APOLOGIES FOR THE PICTURE QUALITY-ORTEGA'S INSTRUMENTS WERE GOING HAYWIRE AT THIS POINT.

THE TOWER IS HUNDREDS OF FEET HIGH- APPARENTLY A NATURAL ROCK FORMATION...

... BUT IT'S NOT.

THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE IS ALIVE. WE'RE NOT EVEN SURE IF IT IS ROCK.

AND IT'S GUARDED.

ORTEGA HAD PRESET HER TAP-BACK SWITCH. IT UNDOUBTEDLY SAVED HER LIFE- THERE WAS BARELY ENOUGH TO STITCH BACK TOGETHER.

BUT SHE'LL MAKE IT AND WE HAVE THE TAPE.



IT IS INTRIGUING
PORLOCK, BUT
YOU MENTIONED
GRACE - ?

AH,
INDEED,



'FRANCESCA LEXLEY GRACE,
UNTIL RECENTLY CORPORATE
DIRECTOR OF ONE OF OUR
MORE LUCRATIVE SIDELINES,
THE OMNI CORPORATION.'

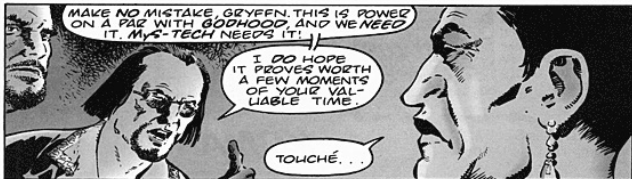


'SWEET CHILD BETWEEN HER
ACTIVITIES AS BANE LEADER,
AND OMNI'S FLAGRANT ABUSE
OF THE ENVIRONMENT, SHE'D
HAVE MADE THE FOUR HORSE-
MEN OF THE APOCALYPSE
BLUSH.



'BUT SHE CHANGED

'THE GREATEST SINGLE DESTRUCTIVE
FORCE SINCE THE HOLOCAUST, RE-
DUCED TO A MEWLING KITTEN BY
THE POWER OF THE PENDRAGON.



MAKE NO MISTAKE, GRYFFEN. THIS IS POWER
ON A PAR WITH GODHOOD, AND WE NEED
IT. MYS-TECH NEEDS IT!

I DO HOPE
IT PROVES WORTH
A FEW MOMENTS
OF YOUR VALU-
ABLE TIME.

TOUCHÉ...

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...HOWEVER I BELIEVE YOUR ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE THE ELUSIVE M^{RS} GRACE HAVE THIS FAR MET WITH A CONSPICUOUS LACK OF SUCCESS...

THE GREEN CHAPEL, AVALON...



I'M JUST NOT USED TO THIS, I'M AFRAID.



NO REALLY, I'M NOT. UNTIL A YEAR AGO THE ONLY BATTLES I'D EVER FOUGHT WERE OVER A BOARDROOM TABLE...

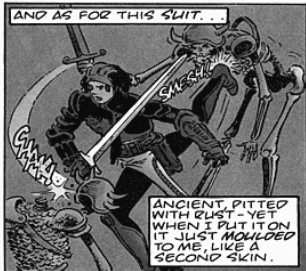
...OR A COMPUTER SCREEN.



No, Milady - a brace of brigands around and about thee...

BUT A DESKTOP - NOT SOME ARCAINE VIDEOGAME.

AND AS FOR THIS SUIT...



ANCIENT, PITTED WITH RUST - YET WHEN I PUT IT ON IT JUST MOULDED TO ME, LIKE A SECOND SKIN.



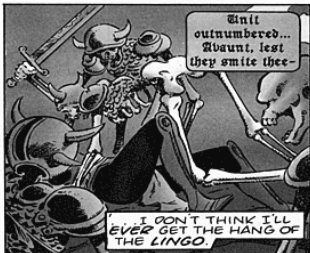
THEY'LL NEVER BELIEVE I JUST FOUND IT.

THING IS...



Reading multiple signals, milady... Retreat!

EVEN THOUGH I'M NOW A FULLY PAID-UP KNIGHT OF PENDRAGON AND EVERYTHING.



Unit outnumbered... Awaunt, lest they smite thee-

I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER GET THE HANG OF THE LINGO.

CAPE WRATH, NORTHERN SCOTLAND.

THEY'LL SAY HANGING'S
TOO GOOD FOR ME.

'THE RADIATION' THEY'LL SAY. 'IT
AFFECTED HIS MIND. HIS WIFE DIED,
YOU KNOW'. THEY'LL SAY THEY
ALWAYS KNEW I WAS WEIRD.

'STUFF 'EM, STUFF
THEM ALL.

'MAZIE WASN'T THE ONLY ONE. IT'S
TEN YEARS SINCE IT HAPPENED,
AND THEY'RE STILL DYING.

'IT WASN'T RIGHT. WE
SHOULD'VE BEEN TOLD.

'AND NOW I'M DEAD TOO.
NOTHING LIVES HERE. NO-
THING WILL FOR YEARS.
I HAVE DRUNK DEEP OF
THE POISON CHALICE...

'BUT THAT'S OKAY.

'BECAUSE BEFORE I
GO, I'LL GIVE THEM
ALL PLENTY TO TALK
ABOUT.

'OH, YES THEY'LL
REMEMBER MY
NAME...

...IAIN...
IAIN
GUTHRIE!!

**DARKMOOR IN THE
CHEVIOT HILLS,
NORTHUMBERLAND...**

**STEP RIGHT
UP, KNIGHTS AND
DAMSELS! THERE'S
VISION AND ENCHAN-
TMENT FOR ALL THE
FAMILY AT
QUESTWORLD!**

**YEA VERILY,
YOU'D BETTER
BELIEVE IT-
BRITAIN'S FIRST
AND ONLY
ARTHURIAN
THEME PARK!**



**FIND THE HOLY GRAIL AND WIN
A BRAND NEW FORD! JUST
TELL 'EM MERLIN SENT YOU!**



**A ROBOT! WOW! HATS
OFF TO STARK ENTER-
PRISES, I'D SAY.**



**SPECIAL
APPEARANCE,
ONE DAY ONLY
BY EVERYONE'S
FAVORITE
KNIGHT OF
PENDRAGON-
UNION
JACK!**

ROLL UP, GOOD PILGRIMS—FOR THE MAIN EVENT! AN AFTERNOON OF KNIGHTLY JOLUSTING BETWEEN THE CHAMPION, UNION JACK...



AND THE CHALLENGER, A DASTARDLY, VILLAINOUS KNAVE WITH A HEART OF BLACK AND ARMOR TO MATCH...



SKZZLIK! EH? NOW
THAT I LIKE.
HOLD STILL, TIN
RIBS. I'LL TRY AND
MAKE THIS AS
PAINLESS AS--



GNLHH!



W-WHLI-? THIS
WASN'T SUPPOSED
TO HAPPEN...



AND
I'M NOT GONNA
STAND FOR
IT!



HAVE
AT THEE,
VARLET!



IN
YOUR DREAMS,
CLANKY. I'M
OFF FOR A
BAND-AID AND
MY FREE
FLAGON OF
MEAD.

THE GREEN CHAPEL,
IN THE ALTERNATIVE
DIMENSION KNOWN
AS AVALON.



HOME OF THE
PENDRAGONS.

OH LORD, I'M GOING
TO DIE. I'M GOING
TO --



P-PETER!
ADAM!

S'OKAY, GRACE.
THE CAVALRY'S
COMING.

BEGONE, HELLSPAWN!
NAFF OFF* WHENCE
YOU CAME!



LORD, THEY'RE STRONG.
WHAT ARE THESE THINGS,
ALBION?



MINDLESS
DRONES ONLY, I
SUSPECT - THE
GREEN CHAPEL'S
DEFENCES, TRIG-
GERED BY OUR
PRESENCE.



NEVER MIND-
WE'LL GET A GOOD
WORK-OUT AT LEAST.
TO BATTLE,
PENDRAGONS!





CAPE WRATH, NORTHERN SCOTLAND.

SHUT UP! DON'T TALK ABOUT MARIE ANY MORE- DON'T MENTION HER NAME!

YOU HAVEN'T THE RIGHT -



YOUR WIFE IS WITH US, IAIN GUTHRIE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK TO HER?

GET OUT WHERE I CAN SEE YOU, YOU SICK FILTH!

GIVE YOU A DAMN GOOD HIDING WHEN I -

iaim...

WE'RE ALL HERE, IAIN. THE DEAD OF CAPE WRATH. DO YOU REMEMBER THE EXPLOSION. THE ONE THEY WOULDN'T TELL US ABOUT?

M-M-MARIE-?



THE RADIATION, IAIN. IT FOULED THE SKY AND SEEPED INTO THE WATER. WE ALL DIED.

IT'S JUST AWFUL HERE, IAIN. IT'S SO DARK AND COLD ALL THE TIME.



OH, LORD-MARIE, I WAS AWAY ON MANEUVERS- I DIDN'T KNOW. I'M SO SORRY.



WE'RE NOT HAPPY, IAIN. IN FACT WE THINK SOMEONE SHOULD PAY FOR OUR MISERY.

SO DO I MY DARLING...



SO DO I.





'OPERATIVE BREEZE JAMES,
REPORTING FROM QUESTWORLD.
IT'S ALL GONE A BIT SQUIFFY
HERE, KYLE...



ALL THE ROBOTS JUST
WIGGED OUT ON MARS.
THEY'RE WRECKING THE
PLACE. SUBJECT UNION
JACK...



WELL, I THINK HE'S IN A LOT
OF TROUBLE. LORD KNOWS HOW,
BUT SOMEHOW HE'S THE CATALYST
IN ALL THIS...



24IKE THANK
YOU, KIND
SIR 24IKE

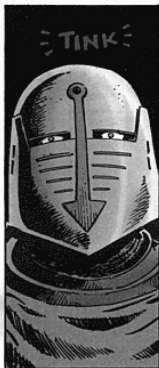


MU-LUM! I'M
BORED...



milady...







SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. A
SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBER FAR
BENEATH THE HEADQUARTERS
OF STARK ENTERPRISES...

AAARGH!

THIS ACTION TAKES
PLACE PRIOR TO EVENTS
IN IRON MAN # 280.

AAAAAH--
HUH?

WHY DID
YOU STOP?

RHODEY-?

I HIT YOU WITH THE SIMU-
LATED EQUIVALENT OF A MINI-
NUKE AN YOU HAVE TO ASK?
GETTING REAL COCKY IN
YOUR OLD AGE, BOSS...

LORD, NO. CONFIDENT - AND AS IRON MAN I HAVE TO BE. BUT THE NUKE - SIMULATION WAS SUPPOSED TO RUN A FULL TWO MINUTES. ... IT WAS...



... BUT WE GOT A PRIORITY CHANNEL CALL FROM UNION JACK. SOMETHIN' ABOUT GUESTWORLD AND IT DIDN'T SOUND LIKE NO 'SINGIN' TELEGRAM. ...



OKAY. I'LL TAKE IT AS TONY STARK.



-AND THAT'S ALL I KNOW, MATE. LOOKS LIKE SABOTAGE - AND IF IT IS, IT SUCCEEDED. PLACE IS ONE MULTI-MILLION POUND MONKEY PUZZLE NOW. ...

UH-LOOK, I'M SORRY, JOE

-BUT THAT'S QUITE IMPOSSIBLE. I INCORPORATED A FAILSAFE SCRAMBLER INTO THE SYNCHROMESH - THERE'S NO WAY TO HACK INTO THE KNIGHTS' NEURO-CORE. ...



NOT BY PHYSICAL MEANS AT LEAST.



SORRY TO HEAR THAT, TONY MATE. 'CAUSE I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT MORE BAD NEWS. ...

A black and white comic book illustration of Iron Man in flight. He is shown from a high angle, flying towards the viewer and slightly to the right. His right arm is extended forward, and his left arm is bent. He is wearing his iconic armor, which includes a helmet with a visor. The background shows a city with several buildings, including a large one with a flat roof and a smaller one with a gabled roof. There are also some trees and hills in the distance. The overall style is that of a classic comic book illustration, with bold lines and a sense of motion.

TWO OF THEM ARE
ON THE LOOSE!

NEXT MONTH: IRON MAN AND BLACK KNIGHT ARRIVE IN
BRITAIN TO DISCOVER THE SECRET OF THE NEW PENDRAGONS IN...

METALSTORM!